

The Director

Central Intelligence Agency



Washington, D.C. 20505

Executive Registry

177-9053/B

CONgress 21 Sept 77

25 OCT 1977

Honorable Howard W. Cannon, Chairman  
Committee on Rules and Administration  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Thank you for your letter of 7 September 1977 requesting information on downgrading certain classified intelligence information from the Central Intelligence Agency provided to the Senate Select Committee on Presidential Campaign Activities. I understand that this information is now in the custody of your Committee pursuant to a Senate resolution.

All or a great part of that intelligence information was compiled through the use of sensitive intelligence sources and methods. It is, therefore, exempt from automatic declassification under Section 5, paragraph B(2) of Executive Order 11652, and each classified document in your possession should contain a notice to that effect. If such a notice has in any case been omitted through oversight, I request that you accept this letter as equivalent assurance that the Agency documents in your custody are not subject to automatic declassification.

I might add that our understanding with the Senate Select Committee on Presidential Campaign Activities has always been that information derived from intelligence sources and methods would not be subject to declassification in keeping with the provisions of Executive Order 11652 already cited.

I appreciate your interest in bringing this matter to my attention.

Yours sincerely,

STANSFIELD TURNER

EXECUTIVE REGISTRY FILE

CONgress



Washington, D.C. 20505

77-9053/B

OLC 77-3872/b

25 OCT 1977

Honorable Howard W. Cannon, Chairman  
Committee on Rules and Administration  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

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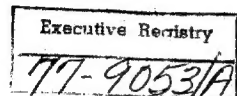
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/s/ Stansfield Turner

STANSFIELD TURNER

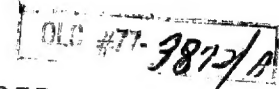
THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20505



Office of Legislative Counsel

21 September 1977



Honorable Howard W. Cannon, Chairman  
Committee on Rules and Administration  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

We have received your letter dated 7 September requesting that we downgrade the classification of Agency material previously obtained by the Senate Select Committee on Presidential Campaign Activities. Because of the amount of the material involved, it will take us a little while to review the files in terms of your request. We will get back to you as soon as the review is completed.

Sincerely,



Acting Legislative Counsel

STAT

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(EXECUTIVE REGISTRY FILE

*Congress*

HOWARD W. CANNON, NEV., CHAIRMAN  
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57-9053

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CHESTER H. SMITH, CHIEF COUNSEL  
LARRY E. SMITH, MINORITY STAFF DIRECTOR

## United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON  
RULES AND ADMINISTRATION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

September 7, 1977

Admiral Stansfield Turner  
Director  
Central Intelligence Agency  
Washington, D. C. 20505

Dear Admiral Turner:

In the course of its investigation, the Senate Select Committee on Presidential Campaign Activities obtained certain classified material from the Central Intelligence Agency. Senate Resolution 369 of the 93rd Congress transferred custody of these and other files to the Senate Committee on Rules and Administration.

Under Chapter IV, Section A, Subsection 2, of Executive Order 11652, as modified, "information and material originally classified "Secret" shall become automatically downgraded to "Confidential" at the end of the second calendar year following the year in which it was originated, and declassified at the end of the eighth full calendar year following the year in which it was originated."

These materials were classified "Secret" in the calendar year 1974 and now seem to qualify under the automatic declassification subsection of Executive Order 11714.

Downgrading the classification at this time would permit us to include this material in the working files of the Watergate Committee, now housed in the vaults of the Manuscript Division of the Library of Congress and allow this material to be made available by this Committee, on a limited basis, to our highest need category of requestors comprised of prosecutors, defendants and Congressional Committees.

I will appreciate your early response.

Sincerely,

  
HOWARD W. CANNON

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HWC/SS/gr

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# EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

## Routing Slip

TO:		ACTION	INFO	DATE	INITIAL
1	DCI		✓		
2	DDCI		✓		
3	D/DCI/IC				
4	DDS&T				
5	DDI				
6	DDA		✓		
7	DDO				
8	D/DCI/NI				
9	GC				
10	LC	✓			
11	IG				
12	Compt				
13	D/Pers				
14	D/S				
15	DTR				
16	A/DCI/PA				
17	AO/DCI				
18	C/IPS				
19	DCI/SS				
20					
21					
22					

SUSPENSE 20 Sep 77  
Date

Remarks:

10: Please prepare response for DCI signature

3637 (5-77)

14 Sep 77  
Date

STAT

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